



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS

Supporting Emergency Management Professionals in British Columbia

June 10, 2021

**SUBJECT: STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SUPPORT REGARDING KAMLOOPS RESIDENTIAL
SCHOOL BURIAL SITE DISCOVERY**

The Board of Directors and Membership of the BC Association of Emergency Managers (BCAEM) are deeply saddened by the recent discovery of unmarked burial sites on the grounds of the former Kamloops Residential School.

Our thoughts are with the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc First Nation, and all First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities, peoples, and families who have suffered and continue to suffer because of the Residential School system - one of the darkest chapters in our collective history.

The BCAEM is committed to supporting and furthering holistic emergency management practices that acknowledge and respect the First Nations cultures, Indigenous peoples, their lands and traditional territories.

Emergencies and disasters occur, in what we now call British Columbia, on Indigenous traditional territories. We, as an association, are committed to the pursuit of a better future for our profession. The foundation of our commitment is collaboration and respect for the peoples and lands we are collectively tasked to protect.

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